

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX 75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request EPA-R9-2012-000854

Louis Rivara Assistant County Assessor Contra Cost County Assessor's Office 2530 Arnold Drive, Suite 400 Martinez, CA 94553-4395

Dear Mr. Rivara:

This letter concerns your Freedom of Information Act request of September 5, 2012, regarding Chevron Richmond Refinery Fire Incident on August 6, 2012.

I wish to advise you that we have not yet been able to prepare the records for release that you requested due to the large volume of documents and Chevron's claim of business confidentiality. EPA requested and received substantiation of the confidentiality claim from the Company. Our legal staff has reviewed and validated each of the claims. Staff is now in the process of preparing the records for release which did not meet the definition of "confidential business information." We hope to have our complete response to you by September 30, 2012.

I regret the inconvenience this may have caused. Please contact me at 415-972-3080, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mary Wesling

EPCRA/RMP Enforcement

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US EPA Region 9

cc: Ivry Johnson, EPA